

**REQUIREMENTS FOR ISSUANCE OF  
FLASHING LIGHT/SIREN PERMITS**  
E-216 REV. 4-2001

STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
**DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES**  
60 STATE STREET, WETHERSFIELD, CT 06161-5051  
FLASHING LIGHT UNIT  
TELEPHONE: (860) 263-5410  
On The Web At <http://dmvct.org>



## **HOW TO OBTAIN A FLASHING LIGHT PERMIT**

To obtain a flashing red, red/white combination, white, or amber light permit, submit a completed **APPLICATION FOR FLASHING LIGHT/SIREN PERMIT** (*Form no. E-215*) to the Flashing Light Unit at the address above. Indicate the type of permit requested and clearly state the need for the permit in the section labeled **PURPOSE FOR PERMIT**. The application must be properly signed by the appropriate official in the area labeled **REQUIRED AUTHORIZATION**. Siren permits will automatically be issued with a permit for a flashing red light, white light, or red/white combination lights, but **CANNOT** be issued with any other permit. The use of a flashing red, red/white combination, or white light in conjunction with a siren by the operator grants the rights of an emergency vehicle under section 14-238 of the Connecticut General Statutes. A fee of \$7.00 is required for each flashing light authorized by permit, but vehicles owned by or leased to the state or a municipality are exempt from this fee. To qualify for the fee exemption, include a letter of verification from an authorized state or municipal official stating that the vehicle is owned by or leased to the state or a municipality.

Flashing light permits issued by the Department of Motor Vehicles must be renewed annually.

Flashing light permits will only be issued for use with vehicles registered in the state of Connecticut. Applications for **PRIVATE** vehicles (*not owned by or leased to the state or a municipality*) must be accompanied by a photocopy of the vehicle's current Connecticut registration certificate.

## **FLASHING RED LIGHT SIREN PERMIT**

Permits for a flashing red light and siren may be issued for (1) emergency vehicles of the chief executive officer of medical service organizations used only when responding to a medical emergency call and the application must be authorized by the Department of Health, Office of Emergency Medical Services, (2) vehicles operated by fire marshals (*but not vehicles being operated by **DEPUTY** fire marshals*) used only when responding to an emergency call and the application must be authorized by either the local mayor or the local chief of fire department, or (3) vehicles operated by the director of emergency management (*but not vehicles operated by **DEPUTY** directors of emergency management*) used only when responding to an emergency call and the application must be authorized by the local mayor.

A permit for a flashing red light and siren, instead of a permit for a flashing white light and siren, may be issued to the chief of a fire department or company and two deputies designated by the chief, or two assistants if there are no deputies. The application for a flashing red light and siren will be authorized by the local chief of the fire department. **NOTE:** The current permits issued to the outgoing chief and/or deputies/assistants must be surrendered to DMV for cancellation before applications for the new chief and deputies/assistants can be accepted. If these permits have been lost or stolen, a signed affidavit stating this fact must accompany the application(s).

The use of a flashing red light and siren grants the rights of an emergency vehicle under **section 14-283 of the Connecticut General Statutes**.

## FLASHING WHITE LIGHT AND SIREN PERMIT

Instead of a flashing red light and siren permit, a permit for a flashing white light and siren may be issued to chiefs of a fire department or company and two deputies designated by the chief, or two assistants if there are no deputies. The applications for a flashing white light and siren will be authorized by the local chief of the fire department. **NOTE:** The current permits issued to the outgoing chief and/or deputies/assistants must be surrendered to DMV for cancellation before applications for the new chief and deputies/assistants can be accepted. If these permits have been lost or stolen, a signed affidavit stating this fact must accompany the application.

The use of a flashing white light and siren by the operator grants the rights of an emergency vehicle under section **14-283 of the Connecticut General Statutes**.

## FLASHING RED/WHITE LIGHT COMBINATION AND SIREN PERMIT

A permit for a flashing red/white light combination and siren may be issued to OEMS-approved first response vehicles, ambulances, and mobile intensive care/paramedic vehicles, and the application for a flashing red/white light and siren must be authorized by the Department of Health, Office of Emergency Medical Services.

The Commissioner is authorized, at his discretion, to issue the combination red/white light and siren permit to the chief of a fire department or company and two deputies designated by the chief (*or two assistants if there are no deputies*). The application for a flashing red/white combination and siren will be authorized by the local chief of the fire department.

An application for a flashing red/white light combination and siren must be accompanied by a fee of \$14.00, \$7.00 for the flashing red light permit and \$7.00 for the flashing white light permit.

The use of a flashing red/white light and siren by the operator grants the rights of an emergency vehicle under **section 14-283 of the Connecticut General Statutes**.

## FLASHING AMBER LIGHT PERMIT

A permit for a flashing amber light may be issued for approved maintenance, escort, or security vehicles which are operated on Connecticut roads and which require a flashing light as a cautionary mechanism to warn motorists. An approved escort vehicle escorts a vehicle which operates with a DOT permit. The application for a flashing amber light permit must be authorized by the local chief of police where the flashing amber light will be used. A permit for a siren will **NOT** be issued with a permit for a flashing amber light.

The use of a flashing amber light does **NOT** exempt the operator from state traffic regulations, or from the traffic regulations of any town, city, or borough.

A permit for a flashing amber light is **NOT** required if the flashing amber light will be displayed and used **ONLY ON PRIVATE PROPERTY**.

## FLASHING BLUE OR GREEN LIGHT PERMITS

Members of volunteer or organized civil defense fire companies or departments may display the official flashing blue light designated for their use pursuant to **section 14-96p of the Connecticut General Statutes**. Vehicles operated by active members of a volunteer ambulance association or company may display the official flashing green light designated for their use pursuant to **section 14-96p of the Connecticut General Statutes**.

Authorization to display a flashing blue or green light may be obtained from the Chief Executive Officer of such association, department, or company. Authorizations issued by the Chief Executive Officer must be forwarded annually, during the month of January, to the Flashing Light Unit.

The **APPLICATION FOR SIREN OR FLASHING LIGHT/SIREN PERMIT** (*Form no E-215*) is **NOT** used to obtain a blue or green flashing light permit. Requests for such permits are made through the appropriate Chief Executive Officers.

The use of a flashing blue or green light does **NOT** exempt the operator from state traffic regulations, or from the traffic regulations of any town, city, or borough.